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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

CD NO.

INTELLOFAX 21

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 2 May 1951

SUBJECT Military Activity in Petrich Area

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. An infantry battalion of about 350 men, believed to be part of 14 Infantry Regiment at Blagoevgrad, is located in Petrich.
2. As of February 1951, the former German-built auxiliary airfield, situated about two miles north of the Kermen railroad station, was being reconditioned for military use.
3. The 25 Infantry Regiment, formerly of Slivnitsa, is stationed at Gara Pirin.
4. On 20 January 1951, construction of loading platforms was commenced at the following railway stations:

Marikostenovo	-	Platform 300 m. long and 12 m. wide
Gara Danyanitsa	-	Platform 350 m. long and 12 m. wide
Sveti Vrach	-	Platform 250 m. long and 10 m. wide
Gara Ograzhden	-	Platform 250 m. long and 10 m. wide
Gara Pirin	-	Platform 300 m. long and 12 m. wide
Gara Mechkul	-	Platform 250 m. long and 10 m. wide

Construction of these loading platforms was completed by the end of February 1951.

5. The Communist Party authorities in inhabited places, particularly in the border zones, have formed small groups of civilians whose purpose is to assist the Militia in combatting outlaws. These groups are selected from trustworthy Communist Party members and are issued small arms and given special training.*

The leader of this combat group in Chouchouligovo (sic) village near Petrich is Dimitur Avromov, secretary of the Communist Party.

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